

CHAPTER 30 - CREWS

Crews will be ordered by a standard type. Three (3) types exist for National or interagency assignments. They are; Type 1, Type 2, and Type 2 with IA (initial attack) capability.

NIFC Forest Service has contracted nationally for T-2IA Crews (National Contract Resources, or NCR). National Contract Resources (NCR) are hosted by local units (Host Unit Coordination Centers, or HUCC) which are contractually required to utilize dispatch priorities when mobilizing crews, as outlined in section C.7 of the National Type-2IA Firefighter Crew Contract.

For copies of the NCR Contract contact:

U.S. Forest Service, Contracting
National Interagency Fire Center 3833 S. Development Avenue
Boise, Idaho 83705-5354
Phone: (208) 387-5665

MINIMUM CREW STANDARDS FOR NATIONAL MOBILIZATION

For a detailed description of minimum crew standards see Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations: https://www.nifc.gov/policies/pol_ref_redbook.html

TYPE 1 INTERAGENCY HOTSHOT CREWS

For a complete list of all Type 1 Interagency Hotshot Crews, refer to the following web site:

<https://www.fs.fed.us/science-technology/fire/people/ihc>

Interagency Hotshot Crews (IHC) meet or exceed all standards found in the Standards for Interagency Hotshot Crew Operations (SIHCO).

https://www.nifc.gov/policies/pol_ref_hotshotOps.html

Interagency Hotshot Crews require appropriate Federal or State agency sponsorship and a recommendation by their respective Geographic Area Coordinating Group for inclusion into the National Interagency Mobilization Guide. NICC will maintain availability status of Type 1 IHCs but will not recognize internal Geographic Area rotations of these crews.

Type 1 IHCs attempting to transport chain saws on other than NIFC contract jets should be prepared to ship their chain saws via an alternative method should loading be refused. Type 1 IHCs normally come equipped with hand tools. There may be occasions when Type 1 IHCs transported by air do not arrive with hand tools. If tools are needed, they should be ordered separately as supply items.

When Type 1 Crews are transported by aircraft, the receiving unit should be prepared to provide the following:

- Crew transportation.
- Vehicle to transport saws, fuel, and hand tools separate from crew transportation.
- Fire equipment (minimum two (2) cases of fuses).
- Chain saws (four (4) kits).
- Saw fuel (ten (10) gallons, unmixed).
- Bar oil (five (5) gallons).

Interagency Hotshot Crews as T2IA, T2 or Suppression Modules

When Interagency Hotshot crews fall below the level identified in the Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations they may still be dispatched as a T2IA, T2 Crew or Suppression Module provided they meet the standards for the lesser qualification.

Naming conventions for these crews will be as follows:

Fire – Crew, T2 IA American River IHC

Groups – Module, Suppression – Craig IHC

The Eastern Area has one Type 1 Hotshot Crew, the Midewin Interagency Hotshot Crew, which is hosted by the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, IL-MPF.

TYPE 2 AND TYPE 2 IA CREWS

Type 2 Crews will be ordered as Type 2 or Type 2 IA. In addition to the Type 2 minimum standards, Type 2 IA Crews can be broken up into squads and have three (3) qualified sawyers.

Type 2 IA and Type 2 crews attempting to transport chain saws on other than NIFC contract jets should be prepared to ship their chain saws via an alternative method should loading be refused. Type 2 IA and Type 2 Crews may come equipped with hand tools and chain saws. Units sending Type 2 and Type 2 IA Crews will determine the ratio of crews to Crew Representatives (CREP) needed for a given assignment. Depending on the assignment, ratios of 1:1 to 1:4 may be appropriate. These responsibilities can be met by an Interagency Resource Representative (IARR) as well. A CREP assigned to Type 2 or Type 2 IA Crew will remain with the crew from the initial dispatch until the crew is released to home unit. CREPs are not required for agency regular crews.

Standard crew size is twenty (20) people maximum and eighteen (18) people minimum (including Crew Boss, Crew Representative, and trainees).

All equipment will be inspected and weighed at time of mobilization to ensure adherence to safe transportation procedures.

All crew personnel mobilized and demobilized outside the local unit through NICC will be identified on a crew manifest form. Crew supervisors will always maintain a minimum of four (4) accurate copies of this form. Crew weights will be manifested separate from personal gear and equipment weights. The crew supervisor or CREP will ensure compliance with weight limitations.

Anytime a Geographic Area or State has committed four (4) or more crews, an Interagency Resource Representative (IARR) can be sent by the sending unit or the receiving unit can request them. For each IARR sent, it is the responsibility of the sending GACC to mobilize, demobilize, and ensure proper notification is made to the receiving GACC. An IARR mobilized to incident assignments away from their

home unit should have the ability to be fiscally self-sufficient.